

Regional Telecommunications Council V

Minutes

July 22, 2015 (3:00 p.m.)

Call to Order:

Scott Fosseen called the Regional Telecommunications Council V meeting to order.

Roll Call:

Scott Fosseen
Carrie Rock
Jerry Chizek
Jeff Herzberg
Jeff Kruse
Janet Boyd
Kathy Schmidt

Others Present:
Pat McGinty
Jonnie Becker
Jeff Nelsen
Kathy Goebel

Approval of RTC March 11, 2015 Minutes

Jerry Chizek made a motion to accept the minutes as received. Jeff Herzberg seconded the motion. No objections. Motion carried.

ICN Update/McGinty:

The ICN has been: 1) Preparing updates for the school with schools requesting approximately a 50% increase in bandwidth request. Most of these orders have been completed. 2) Working on IP communications for First Responders in Iowa, guaranteeing them high speed connections. The ICN would be considered the “technical management” for the State of Iowa. Iowa is one of the first states to be approved to aide in first responders. 3) Creating an Advisory Council for students in grades 10, 11, and 12th. The Council would be made up of students who are passionate about making a difference in broadband. The ICN wants to engage the next generation. Anyone wanting more information about any of these items can read about it on the ICN website.

ILO Update/Becker:

The ILO has been busy this summer. ILO was created to allow students to take classes that aren't available or doesn't fit into the student's schedule. Schools have to approve all classes that students take through the ILO. Additional foreign language classes are being offered, which allows 8th graders to participate in these classes now. Placement Services are now available for students. This allows students to be placed in the correct class. Last year ILO partnered with one out of four high schools but starting this fall number will be one out of three high schools. There is still no cost for the schools to allow students to take ILO classes.

Technicians Report/Fosseen:

The usual duties were performed. Schools requesting bandwidth increases for the upcoming school year were completed by July 1. Many of the schools are up to 100 Mgbt. A full time position at the AEA was created so someone would be available to address internet and connection issues when Scott and Jason were out of the office. Steve Meyer will handle these issues.

Technicians Report/Nelsen:

A RUS grant was received and they've been busy helping AVI install eight new H.323 rooms at these locations: Iowa Central Fort Dodge Campus, Storm Lake Campus, Webster City Campus, Eagle Grove Career Academy, Eagle Grove High School, Clarion-Goldfield-Dows High School, Newell-Fonda High School, and Manson Northwest Webster High School. All rooms should be installed by the start of the school year this fall. Scheduling issues have been popping up because painting, installation of carpet and electrical wiring needs to be done prior to the installation of these rooms. Several schools removed their MPEG classrooms this summer as well. Webster City High School and Southeast Valley High School was part of the RUS grant but they will not upgrade to an H.323 room until next year. Iowa Central pulled their last MPEG classroom at the Fort Dodge Campus and is adding another H.323 room in addition to the one included in the RUS grant.

ICN Schedulers Report/Goebel:

The usual regional scheduler duties were performed (entering ICN reservations, answering questions, making changes on reservations as needed, sending ICN weekly and monthly schedules to the schools, etc.) Over 50 ICN classes will be running this fall through Iowa Central. With high schools upgrading to H.323 rooms, some of these high schools will be receiving these ICN classes. The ICN Scheduling Deadlines were received and classes for the spring will start shortly. Other duties include completing the Annual Report, the FY 2016 Budget for the RTC V, as well as the eRate Account Proposal Update.

Annual Report for FY 2015/Goebel:

Jeff Nelsen completed the section on Technical Assistance, Scott Fosseen completed the section on Planning and Troubleshooting and the rest was completed by myself. If any of the members would like to see any changes or improvements made or have additional comments that they would like included on the Annual Report, please let me know within the next couple of days.

FY 2016 RTC V Budget/Goebel:

The FY 2016 Budget for the RTC V was presented based on the recommendations that were approved by the Budget Committee last year. The Annual Budget for this fiscal year is \$59,296.27 for Region V. This amount is broken out into three areas: 1) Technical Assistance for Network Classrooms, 2) Planning and Troubleshooting for Local Area Networks, and 3) Scheduling of Video Sites. The RTC V approved the Budget Committee's recommendation last year to allow 30% of the budget to be applied to sections 1 & 2 and 40% of the budget to cover section 3. Based on these percent's, \$17,788.88 will cover expenses for 1 & 2 and \$23,718.51 will cover expenses for 3. A higher percent is allowed for the scheduler to ensure that the duties for the scheduling of video classes are priority. Jeff Kruse motioned to approve the Budget as presented. Carrie Rock seconded the motion. No objections. Motion carried.

eRate Account Proposal Update/Goebel:

\$23,007.54 is in the eRate Scheduling Account. An incentive to encourage schools to utilize ICN classrooms was proposed and approved by the RTC V at the last meeting. The proposal included two parts: 1) financial assistance for equipment to upgrade their ICN room to an H.323 room and 2) receive reimbursement up to \$1,035 for monthly Recurring Charges for an ICN classroom. A letter explaining the proposal was sent to high schools in Region V with a deadline of June 30, 2015. Four schools responded by submitting requests to participate. Newell-Fonda, Prairie Valley (Southeast Valley), and Manson Northwest Webster will participate in sections 1 & 2 (\$7,324.18/school) and Fort Dodge High School submitted a request to participate in section 2 (\$1,035). Jeff Herzberg motioned that these schools be awarded the eRate incentive as presented. Jerry Chizek seconded the motion. No objections. Motion carried.

Comments from the floor:

None.

Meeting Adjourned.